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# Fundraising letter from Laurence C. Jones about bus destroyed by fire

Laurence Clifton Jones (1884-1975)

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# Fire Destroys Bus Belonging To Piney Woods Country Life School



BEFORE THE FIRE

Ice — Drouth — Fire — Truly this has been a difficult year. We thought when the ice did so much damage to water mains and heating plants and lights surely the major calamity of this year had come. But no sooner had we recovered from this than the drouth—six weeks with no rain. Finances have been stretched to the breaking point to provide food for stock—chickens—people! And now the bus in which our singers traveled North each summer has burned. It will take three thousand and five hundred dollars to replace it.

In overhauling it and getting it ready for a summer's tour up North there was some iron and sheet metal work our boys could not do. We took it to a firm in Jackson—the Magnolia Body Works. One night about twenty minutes after the workmen had gone it caught fire and left this tangled mass. No doubt their welding machines had created a smouldering fire.

We did not have any insurance nor did they.

We have faith that friends of good causes will not let us down, that trouble will not last always (as the old Negro spiritual says), but without your help we cannot rise above our difficulties.

Sincerely and sorrowfully,

*Laurence C. Jones*



AFTER THE FIRE